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CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield 10455 Mill Run Circle Owings Mills, MD 21117-4208 Tel. 410-998-5496 Fax 410-998-4500



February 15, 2000

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation Attention: Privacy-P, Room G-322A Hubert H. Humphrey Building 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201

Dear Assistant Secretary:

I, along with other representatives of CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield have reviewed the HIPAA NPRM, Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, as published in the Federal Register on November 3, 1999,

CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield continues to be supportive of the intent of the HIPAA Administrative Simplification legislation and we appreciate the opportunity to communicate our views.

Consequently, we have contributed comments regarding this Privacy NPRM to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and are satisfied that comments submitted by the Association to HHS on behalf of the plans, will also address our issues and concerns.

Should you have any questions regarding our position, please contact me at 410-998-5496.

Sincerely,

Fran Doherty

Vice President, Government Affairs

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